



*****For Immediate Release*****

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Hoopfest 2019 Success

Spokane – Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers were very busy over the Hoopfest weekend and their work paid off as there were no reported serious injury or fatal crashes in the region. Troopers on motorcycles, in aircraft and with K9 partners were in the area from across the state to assist local troopers. These troopers were deployed as part of a statewide HiVE (High Visibility Enforcement) emphasis focused on managing increased traffic on Interstate 90 due to Hoopfest travel. HiVE troopers worked from the east slopes of the Cascades to Spokane. HiVE patrols are used in conjunction with major events across Washington State.

In a letter to WSP Chief John Batiste, Spokane Police Chief Crag Meidl thanked WSP personnel for their support of local law enforcement during one of the busiest weekends in Spokane. While the WSP's primary mission is to enforce traffic laws on area roadways, we also work closely with local law enforcement to provide additional support during large events.

Motorcycle troopers stopped over 600 motorists for speed violations along with numerous drivers with suspended driver's licenses. On Saturday and Sunday, troopers in patrol vehicles working with WSP aircraft were also busy and contacted over 70 motorists including six aggressive drivers.

K9 troopers were also deployed across the region to patrol for dangerous drugs being transported into and around the region. Troopers arrested 20 drivers for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of alcohol and or drugs.

"I am very proud of everyone's hard work and saw a lot of dedicated professionals committed to making people safe on our area's roadways while also reducing the risk of crime," said WSP District 4 Commander Captain Jeff Otis.

The WSP looks forward to Hoopfest 2020 and will continue our efforts to support this great community event.

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